

ART. IV.—*Notes on Amycterides, with Descriptions of
New Species, Part III.*

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The following paper contains the descriptions of a few species that have been discovered within recent years. Most of the new species belong to the genus *Sclerorinus*; the members of this genus are often exceedingly difficult of identification, as many, particularly those belonging to Section I., run extremely close to each other, and a knowledge of both sexes is absolutely essential in many cases for identification. For this reason several species represented in my collection by the female sex only are left undescribed.

Within the last two years the veteran entomologist, Dr. David Sharp, has turned his attention to the Amycterides, and is now working on the subdivision of the larger groups, such as *Phalidura*, *Talaurinus* and *Sclerorinus*, into smaller genera, according to the structure of the male genitalia. One paper has already been published (*Entomologists' Monthly Magazine*, third series, vol. vi., Jan., 1920, pp. 1-7) dealing with the genera constituting what Dr. Sharp characterises as the tribe *Phaladurines*. This tribe contains the old genus, *Phalidura* (*Psalidura*), subdivided by Dr. Sharp into *Phalidura* and *Aphalidura*, a new genus—*Prophalidura*—of which *Talaurinus riverinae* is the type, and *Eustatius*, formed for a new species *E. fergusoni*. A table is given of the relation to each other of these four genera. As the change of names affects many Victorian species a few comments may not be out of place.

Phalidura. Genotype—*P. reticulata*, Boisd. (= *P. mirabilis* (Macleay) Fischer, nec Kirby). In the name of this genus Dr. Sharp has revived the original and certainly correct spelling in preference to the emendation *Psalidura* made by Erickson (*Agassiz Nomencl. Zool. Col.*, p. 136), and not by Gemminger and Harold, as stated by Dr. Sharp. In this revival of the name *Phalidura* I am absolutely in accord with Dr. Sharp. Under the genus as defined by Dr. Sharp are included groups

1 and 2 of my revision, and, according to Dr. Sharp, probably most of the other species as far as group 6.

Aphalidura. Genotype—*A. impressa*, Boisd. Included with this are *P. sloanei*, Ferg., and *P. breviformis*, Ferg.. *P. sloanei*, Ferg., is certainly congeneric with *P. impressa*, Boisd., and if the genus *Aphalidura* is to be recognised all the members of group 7 should be included. I am much more doubtful about the species of group 9, of which *P. breviformis*, Ferg., is a member, and there seem equally good reasons for separating all the groups generically as for splitting off groups 7 and 9. For the present, therefore, and until much more work is done on the male genitalia and abdominal segments of the various groups, I think it would be better to restrict the new genus to group 7. For this reason, in describing a new species of group 9 in the present paper, I have thought it better to place it under the old genus *Phalidura*.

A further difficulty arises in connection with the name of the genus. *Phalidura impressa*, Boisd., the type of *Aphalidura*, is almost certainly the original *Curculio mirabilis*, Kirby, or as Sharp says, possibly a close ally of it. The key to the solution lies in the interpretation of the figure of the male sexual mechanism given by Kirby. As Dr. Sharp points out, the figure is not satisfactory for *P. impressa*, though the discrepancies may be partially, if not wholly, due to foreshortening. I believe that this is probably the case as in all the allied species known to me the apices of the laminae are broadly rounded, and not obtusely pointed as in *P. impressa*, and in the figure of *C. mirabilis*.

I have to thank Mr. Sloane for drawing my attention to the fact that Erickson, as early as 1842 (*Archiv. fur Natur.*, p. 113) identified *P. mirabilis*, Kirby, with the only known Tasmanian species, and in a footnote gives *A. mirabundus*, Gyll., as a synonym, while drawing attention to (?) Schönherr's misidentification of *P. mirabilis*. *A. mirabundus*, Gyll. (1834) antedates *A. impressus*, Boisd. (1835), the type of which was also from Tasmania.

If *Curculio mirabilis*, Kirby, is to be thus identified with *Amycterus impressus*, Boisd., the further question arises as to whether the name *Amycterus* should not be used in preference to *Aphalidura* for this group. *Amycterus* was described in Schönherr's *Curculionidum Dispositio Methodica*, 1826, p. 202, the type of the genus being given as follows:—

Typus: *Curc. mirabilis*, Kirby, in Linn. Trans.—Species unica e nova Hollandia, magna, facie aliena, rostri forma insolita et valde singulari.

This absolutely fixes the name *Amycterus* to the species described by Kirby, and is not affected by the fact that Gyllenhal, in 1834, in re-describing, from the Schönherr collection, *Amycterus mirabilis*, described the gular-horned species previously described by Fischer (1823) as *Phalidura mirabilis* (= *P. reticulata*, Boisd.).

If, therefore, group 7 is to be separated generically from *Phalidura*, the name *Amycterus*, which I have, in an earlier paper, placed as a synonym of *Phalidura*, must be revived and used in preference to *Aphalidura*, Sharp.

I have gone into this question at some length, as the change of names will affect most of the Victorian species now called *Psalidura*.

Prophalidura. The type species is *Talaurinus riverinae*, Macl., and a second species, *P. truncata*, is described. This I have not been able to identify. The limits of the genus are somewhat uncertain, but, as characterised, would probably exclude many species such as *tomentosus*, *howitti*, *maculipennis*, etc., which show a decided resemblance to *riverinae*. One species,—*T. granulatus*, Ferg.—should, I think, be referred to *Prophalidura*.

Eustatius fergusonii, Sharp. Both genus and species are unknown to me; it is probably a good genus, but the distinction as regards the short forceps is hardly sufficient to separate it from *Phalidura*, as equally short forceps occur in several species of that genus.

Boisduvalian Types of *Amycterides*.

In a previous paper (Proc. Linn. Soc., N.S. Wales, 1911, xxxvi., p. 141), I re-described such of Boisduval's types of *Amycterides* as were in the Dejean collection, now in the Brussels Museum. A few types described from other collections were not seen, and while in Paris I endeavoured to trace the whereabouts of these, and in particular of those belonging to the collection Dupont. In the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle at Paris I examined the types of *Talaurinus tomentosus*, Boisd., and *Euomus scorpio*, Boisd., both of which are correctly identified in Australian collections.

A specimen of *Acantholophus aurcolus*, Bohem., in the museum, was marked as the type of *Acantholophus echinatus*, but whether it is the type of Guerin's or Boisduval's species of that name I am uncertain. The question is fully discussed elsewhere; it is to be noted, however, that none of the types of other species described by Guerin are in the Museum.

At the time I could get no certain information in regard to the types from the Dupont collection, but later received a letter from M. Lesne, of the Museum, from which the following passage is quoted:—

“Pour ce qui est de la collection Dupont, mes souvenirs étaient inexacts. Les Curculionides de cette collection avaient été cédés à Jekel. Ils sont passés ensuite dans la collection Bowring qui est conservé aujourd'hui au British Museum.”

On receipt of this information I wrote to Mr. G. F. Arrow, of the British Museum, and received the following reply: “We had no idea any of Boisduval's weevils were in our collection, but have found specimens with “Dup.” in Jekel's writing, so no doubt Lesne is right. Jekel seems to have systematically removed all original labels, replacing them only with a number, of which we have no explanation. There are Bowring specimens of *rugifer*, *basalis*, etc., which are very likely types, but I can find no positive evidence in any case. As it is more than 50 years since the Bowring collection came here it is likely that some specimens have been parted with, or even destroyed as worthless.”

The species affected are as follow, placed in their proper genera: *Talaurinus rugifer*, *Sclerorinus tristis*, *Macramycterus boisduvalii*, *Mythites basalis*, and the species described as *Amycterus posticus*, which I am not able to place generically. With the exception of the last, the names of these species have been attached to well known species, which agree very well with the original descriptions.

Types of Amycterides in the British Museum.

While in London I was able to examine the types of Amycterides contained in the British Museum collection. Notes on some of these have already been given, or they will be dealt with in their places in the revision of the subfamily, this in particular applying to the Euomid genera.

The following notes may be recorded here:—

- Talaurinus phrynos*, Pasc.—This is certainly a female *Phalidura*, and practically certainly the female of *P. forficulata*, Macl., from the same locality—Rockhampton.
- Talaurinus victor*, Pasc.—The type is a female of *T. caviceps*, Macl.
- Talaurinus carbonarius*, Pasc.—Good species; type is a female.
- Talaurinus inaequalis*, Blackb. and *Talaurinus strangulatus*, Blackb. Closely allied species, differing in the more excavate rostrum of *T. strangulatus*.
- Talaurinus pustulatus*, Pasc.—The common Western Australian species—*T. semispinosus*, Bohem.
- Talaurinus simulator*, Pasc.—Type a ♂, with more acute tubercles than in the specimens identified by Blair. Unfortunately none of these specimens were available for comparison, but I think that probably they are correctly placed.
- Sclerorinus echinops*, Pasc.—As previously recorded (These Proceedings, 1915, p. 243), this species belongs to *Talaurinus* (sens. lat.), and is closely allied to *T. semispinosus*, but a distinct species; type is a female.
- Talaurinus funereus*, Pasc.—Type appears to be a somewhat abnormal female of *T. roei*, Bohem, with tubercles rather obsolete at base, and fewer than usual.
- Talaurinus lemmus*, Pasc. (*Pseudonotonophes*).—The head of type is non-granulate.
- Talaurinus pupa*, Pasc. (*Pseudonotonophes*).—The head of type is distinctly granulate. This species is the same as *P. dumosus*, Macl.
- Sclerorinus molossus*, Pasc.—Type is a female; tubercles black, otherwise the same as specimens so identified in my own collection.
- Sclerorinus molestus*, Pasc.—Considerable variation exists among specimens referred to this species; the following brief notes made on the type are therefore reproduced: "Type ♂. Ventral vitta tawny. Prothorax broadly dilatate, set with small, rather depressed granules, with granules on sides much smaller and obsolete towards coxæ. Elytra with granules small, equal in size on all the rows, 5, 16, 5, 16, 14 in number on the interstices of left side.

Sclerorhinus taeniatus, Pasc.—Type is a male, and the same as *S. stewarti*, Macl.

Opetiopteryx frigida, Blackb.—Vide infra.

Portion of the Amycterides of the Hope Collection (Oxford) were at the British Museum, and I was able to examine the types of the following species:—

Acantholophus hystrix, Bohem.—As identified in Australia.

Hyborrhynchus coenosus, Bohem.—As identified in Australia ♀.

Cubicorrhynchus bohemanni, Bohem.—As identified in Australia ♀.

Cubicorrhynchus scotobioides, Hope M.S.=*C. bohemanni* ♂

Talaurinus westwoodi, Bohem.=*T. bucephalus*, Oliv.

Talaurinus gyllenhalli, Hope M.S.=*T. bucephalus*, Oliv.

Talaurinus excavatus, Bohem.=*T. rugifer*, Boisd.

Talaurinus semispinosus, Bohem.—As identified in Australia.

Talaurinus pastillarius, Bohem.=*T. semispinosus*, Bohem.

It is doubtful whether this specimen is the type.

Talaurinus roci, Bohem.—*T. funereus*, Pasc. is a synonym.

Sclerorhinella manglesi, Bohem.—As identified in Australia.

OPETIOPTERYX FRIGIDA, Blackb.

Blackburn, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales, vii., 1892, pp. 125, 126.

I am unable to follow Blackburn in placing this species among the Amycterides. The general facies is much more like *Polyphrades*, and the shape of the rostrum and scrobes quite unlike any Amycterid. The tarsal joints are much more expanded than in any Amycterid known to me, and the funicle is 7-jointed.

The species must be rejected from the Amycterides, but its position is doubtful. Possibly it is allied to *Bothynorrhynchus*, which was placed by Lacordaire in the Somatodides.

PHALIDURA AFFINIS, n.sp.

Closely allied to *P. elongata*, Macl., but with more widely separated fascicles.

♂ Black; moderately densely clothed with minute yellowish-brown subpubescence, feebly variegate with grey; setæ yellowish-brown.

Head and rostrum as in *P. elongata*; the internal dorsal rostral ridges slightly more prominent, and the median area feebly car-

inate. Prothorax and elytra as in *P. elongata*, except that the intrastrial granules on the elytra are less evident.

Venter as in *P. elongata*; the apical excavation of the same shape, but with the fascicles slightly larger, and distinctly farther apart. Forceps apparently slightly shorter, the laminae similar in shape.

Dimensions.—♂ 22×8 mm. .

Hab.—Queensland. Type in Queensland Museum. This species might be better regarded as a geographical race, or subspecies of *P. elongata*. The three males before me all agree in the shape and position of the fascicles, which are constantly wider apart than in *P. elongata*. I have seen numerous examples of the latter species, and they all agree in the closely approximated fascicles. It seems to me, therefore, that the Queensland form is worthy of a distinguishing name. No locality labels are present on the specimens.

Associated with the three males are seven females, which probably belong to the same species, but the lack of locality labels does not permit of absolute certainty, as the females of several allied species are practically indistinguishable.

PHALIDURA HOPSONI, n.sp.

Allied to *P. variolosa* and *P. irrasa*, but differing in the genitalia of the male.

♂ Black, sparsely clothed in depressions, with minute greyish subpubescence; setae dark.

Head convex, setigeropunctate; with a median, longitudinal impression anteriorly. Rostrum about as wide as head, width across external ridges about one-half the total width; upper surface deeply excavate anteriorly, with basal foveae narrow, triangular but deep, and a median fovea separating the ends of the internal ridges. Eyes ovate, rather larger and less deeply set than in *P. irrasa*. Antennae with scape shorter and somewhat stouter than in *P. irrasa*.

Prothorax as in *P. variolosa*; set with similar setigerous granules; median impression most distinct posteriorly.

Elytra as in *P. variolosa*; punctures open foveiform; interstices set with small setigerous granules, in single series, duplicated on the third and fifth interstices.

Apical ventral excavation deep, praeanal fossa not very sharply marked off from rest of excavation; fascicles black.

rather widely separated; apical margin with a fringe of black bristles, closely set with an intermediate row of similar bristles, so that the two rows are hardly separable. Forceps short, stout at base, ending in an obtuse point, apices not meeting; laminae more strongly convex, and less elongate than in *P. irrasa* and *P. variolosa*, more or less concealed by a thick brush of hairs projecting between the bases of the forceps, and apparently arising from the last dorsal segment.

♀ Resembles the females of the allied species, but antennal scape shorter.

Dimensions.—♂ 17×8 mm.— 14.5×6 mm.; ♀ 15×6 mm.

Hab.—New South Wales, Barrington Tops (H. J. Carter), Eccleston (J. Hopson).

The genitalia is similar to that of *P. variolosa* and *P. irrasa*, but differs from both in some features. The bristles on what I have previously termed the intermediate row, and on the apical margin, are closely applied, and difficult to distinguish from one another; they are obviously shorter than in *P. variolosa* and *P. irrasa*, and apparently both sets cross the middle line. The bristles on the last dorsal segment form a very conspicuous brush, projecting between the blades of the forceps, which are shorter, and do not meet at the apex. Type in author's collection.

TALAUINUS ANTHRACOIDES, n.sp.

♀ Allied to *T. tenebricosus*, Ferg., but larger, with rougher sculpture.

Black, practically destitute of clothing; setae black.

Head convex, rather feebly depressed in front at base of rostrum; eyes small, rotundate. Rostrum short, almost as wide as head; external margins raised into subparallel ridges, running back to head, but not continued along forehead, moderately closely setigero-punctate; upper surface excavate, internal ridges distinct, little convergent, sublateral and basal foveae forming a horse-shoe shaped impression at base. Antennae moderately long, scape stout, funicle with joints short, the first somewhat longer than the second.

Prothorax rounded on sides, widest in front of middle, apex with median and ocular lobes widely rounded and little prominent; disc convex, without impressions, closely set with small, round, subcontiguous granules; sides also granulate.

Elytra evenly rounded on sides, apex hardly produced, widely rounded; base feebly emarginate, humeral angles with a small nodule; disc with punctures rather large, open, not distinctly separated from one another; interstices hardly raised, closely set with small round setigerous granules, in single series, occasionally duplicated in middle of third and fifth, and extending down declivity; sides granulate. Venter convex; apical segment with a median longitudinal impression in posterior half, with a transverse sulcus at extreme apex. Legs simple.

Dimensions.—♀ 17×7 mm.

Hab.—Victoria, Trawool, Kerrisdale (J. E. Dixon).

Described from three females received from Mr. J. E. Dixon. I have departed from my usual plan of describing only when the male is known, as in this case it does not seem likely to be confused with any other species.

I regard it as allied to *T. tenebricosus*, the rostral structure and general appearance are similar, but the present species is decidedly larger, and the granules much more evident. After the description of the female was written, and when the manuscript was practically complete, I received a somewhat broken specimen of the male, taken by Mr. Dixon in the same locality.

Allotype ♂.—Similar to female, apex subtruncate, with rather thick granulate flanges on each side, separated in the mid line by a small notch. Legs simple. Ventral segments flattened, the intermediate ones rather short, the apical strongly concave, deepest along the posterior margin; ventral surface of apical dorsal segment also concave; ends of forceps visible at sides of excavation. Dimensions.—♂ 16×6 mm.

I have endeavoured to dissect out the genitalia, but found that unfortunately most of the internal structures had disappeared. The eighth ventral segment was, however, represented by a pair of well developed strongly chitinised forceps, the apices of which project externally. The inner surface is curved inwards towards the base to form a strong process extending almost to the mid line, but apparently there is no fusion of the processes of the two blades, though, as this portion is broken, it is impossible to be sure, and it is likely that the gap was bridged by chitin, as there is a small mass adhering at one side. In the allied species *T. tenebricosus*, the forceps are very similar in shape, though smaller and the inner ends are connected by chitin, the segment furthermore possessing another flat plate of chitin anterior to the bar between the inner processes of the forceps;

there is however no vertical plate as in *Prophalidura*, and the species can hardly be placed in that genus as at present defined. If the characters of the eighth ventral segment are to be regarded as of generic value many new genera will be necessary, at present and until much more work can be done on the dissection of these species, I think it inadvisable to erect isolated genera, and prefer to place the species under *Talaurinus* in the Macleayan use of the genus.

NOTONOPHES DILATATICEPS, Blackb.

Cubicorrhynchus dilaticeps, Blackb., Report Horn Exped. Central Australia, ii., 1896, p. 293; Ferguson, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales, 1914, xxxix., p. 224; *Notonophes auriger*, Ferg., loc. cit., p. 222.

In my revision of the genus *Notonophes* I referred *Cubicorrhynchus dilaticeps*, Blackb., there. I have since examined the type in the British Museum, and it is certainly a species of *Notonophes*, and evidently the same as *N. auriger*, Ferg., although a specimen of the latter was not available for comparison.

SCLERORRHINELLA CRAWSHAWI, sp. n.

Allied to *S. granuliceps*, Ferg., but larger, with smaller less regular granules.

♀ Black; densely clothed with fine white decumbent pubescence; head with a broad stripe of dark brown on each side of median line; prothorax with an ovate brown patch on disc, not reaching apex and bisected by a median white vitta, a fainter brown stripe at lateral margins; elytra with scattered, irregular, brown macules; venter more sparsely clothed, the basal segments practically without clothing except at sides; legs densely clothed with white.

Head convex, front somewhat flattened, and set with small, slightly depressed, separate granules, the vertex and sides not granulate. Rostrum short and broad; lateral margins not raised, slightly convergent to base, setigeropunctate; median area lævigata, trianguliform, depressed in front; basal sulci rather broad; internal ridges absent. Antennæ of moderate length, funicular joints short, the first longer than the second.

Prothorax evenly rounded on the sides; apical margin with rather feeble post-ocular sinuation; disc convex, closely set with small, round granules, smaller on median vitta, the granules

completely clothed, and less conspicuous on the areas covered with white pubescence, but incompletely covered on the brownish clothed areas; sides granulate.

Elytra robust; apex widely rounded; base gently emarginate, humeral angles noduliform; strial punctures shallow, open, transverse; interstices little raised, set with very fine granules, more or less concealed by the clothing, somewhat variable in size, set in rather irregular single series, duplicated in places, absent on apical half of fourth interstice and on declivity; granules obsolete on lateral interstices. Venter convex, with fine scattered setigerous punctures. Legs simple.

Dimensions.—♀ 17×7 mm.

Hab.—Western Australia, Jandakot (W. Crawshaw).

Three specimens of this fine species are before me, all females, but I have had no hesitation in describing the species, as it is quite distinct from the other known members of the genus. The species is apparently most closely allied to *S. granuliceps*, Ferg., but differs in the finer, less regularly arranged, granules on both prothorax and elytra. I have much pleasure in naming this species after its discoverer.

Type in author's collection.

SCLERORINUS DAVEYI, n.sp.

♂ Moderately large, elongate. Black; moderately densely clothed with dark brown depressed pubescence; head and prothorax rather feebly trivittate, with lighter creamy clothing, elytra with feeble traces of light clothing about shoulders.

Head flattened in front, in the same plane as, and not separated from dorsal surface of rostrum. Rostrum with external margins parallel; median carina distinct, with a small puncture at junction with head; sublateral sulci broad, rather shallower than in *S. oblongatus*. Mandibles with inner edge produced apically into a somewhat obtuse point, variable in shape, or absent on one side.

Prothorax strongly rounded on the sides, apical margin with strong postocular lobes, and feeble median lobe; disc with subapical constriction moderately marked, and with median line shallowly but distinctly impressed; rather remotely set with elongate subobsolete setigerous granules, practically only distinct between median and sublateral vittæ; sides without granules.

Elytra elongate, subparallel; base gently emarginate; humeral

angles subtruncate; disc with punctures open, shallow, not very distinct; interstices slightly raised, the third and fifth more so than the others; with slight tuberculiform elevations at irregular intervals, the second interstice with 5; the third with 8-9 indicated, the basal ones hardly more elevated than the interstice, which is here subcostiform, the apical ones small, granuliform, but more distinct, extending half-way down declivity; fourth with 3-4 small tubercles; fifth subcostiform the individual tubercles only indicated by setæ, somewhat more distinct posteriorly; sixth with a continuous row of small separate granuliform tubercles; seventh and lateral interstices with tubercles obsolete. Venter somewhat flattened along middle; apical segment with posterior margin strongly bisinuate, the median portion produced as a rounded lobe, somewhat depressed. The last dorsal with undersurface emarginate to correspond with projection of apical ventral segment. Legs not notched; anterior tarsal joints asymmetrical, but less markedly so than in some of the allied species.

♀ Agrees with male; elytra somewhat more ovate; venter convex, apical margin produced ventrally but not bisinuate, with a small emargination at extreme apex, filled with a few stout setæ.

Dimensions.—♂ 16×6 mm.; ♀ 16×6 mm.

Hab.—Victoria, Portland District (H. W. Davey and J. E. Dixon).

I am indebted to Mr. H. W. Davey for a series of this species.

A female given me by Mr. J. E. Dixon differs in being larger (17×8 mm.), and in the much lighter clothing; the head and prothorax are conspicuously trivittate with white, while the median line of elytra, and much of the lateral portions of the disc are covered with similarly coloured clothing. The sculpture is much as in the type, except that the tubercles are slightly larger; the apical ventral segment is lightly impressed in the median line, and the apex is as described.

S. daveyi belongs to a group of closely allied species, for whose correct determination a knowledge of both sexes is necessary; thus the present species is close to *S. inornatus*, from the ♂ of which it can only be distinguished by its less obliterate sculpture, whereas the two females are abundantly distinct.

SCLERORINUS SLOANEI, n.sp.

♂ Elongate, subparallel. Black; sparsely clothed with minute brown subpubescence; setæ dark brown.

Head convex, forehead somewhat flattened, in same plane with dorsal surface of rostrum; feebly longitudinally impressed on each side of median line, with two small linear foveæ in median line, one in centre, and one at junction with rostrum. Rostrum subparallel, the median carina as distinct as the external ridges, all three carried back on to head; sublateral sulci moderately broad, deeper at base. Antennæ comparatively short, moderately stout, first funicular joint longer than second.

Prothorax rounded on sides, broadest in front of middle; apical margin hardly produced above, feeble emarginate in middle, with fairly evident ocular lobes; subapical constriction moderately marked, median line lightly impressed; disc set with subdepressed, elongate, irregular sub-confluent granules, becoming smaller and more rounded at sides; lateral surfaces with small scattered obsolescent granules.

Elytra elongate, subparallel, apex rounded; base gently emarginate, humeral angles not tuberculate; with rows of small, well defined foveiform punctures, each subtended by a small seta; the first, third and fifth interstices raised, with elongate somewhat flattened tubercles, less elongate towards apex of elytra, with small setæ at the posterior end; second and fourth interstices neither raised nor tuberculate; sixth and seventh with less elongate tubercles; lateral interstices without definite granules or tubercles. Venter subnitid, set with black, decumbent setæ; depressed at base, lightly transversely convex on intermediate-segments; apical segment slightly depressed with a median longitudinal sulcus bounded posteriorly by a less defined transverse impression, the lips of the median sulcus raised in a small projection above junction with the transverse impression; apical margin evenly rounded, not bisinuate. Legs simple; anterior tarsi symmetrical.

♀ Similar to male; prothorax with granules more rounded, less elongate; elytra more produced, the apex strongly bimucronate, tubercles fewer and more spaced out on second interstice. Venter strongly convex, apex rounded, not bisinuate.

Dimensions.—♂ 17×6 mm.; ♀ 17×6.5 mm.

Hab.—N.S. Wales, Capertee (T. G. Sloane and H. J. Carter) .

Described from one male and three females, all of which agree in having no tubercles on the second and fourth interstices.

Associated with these, and from the same locality, are four males and a female, which differ in having elongate, spaced out tubercles on the second and third interstices, the sutural interstice is also less raised, except at base, while the punctures are less regular. I can see no other difference except that the prothoracic granules are less elongate.

I am undecided whether these represent a distinct species, or are merely individual variations; I am inclined to the former view, but have thought it better not to affix a name to the specimens while doubt exists as to their status.

The dimensions of these specimens with the number of tubercles on the second and fourth interstices vary somewhat, and are given in the following table:—

Sex.	Dimensions.	Second Interstice.	Fourth Interstice.
♂ . . .	16 × 5.5 mm.	.. 6—8	.. 5
♂ . . .	15 × 5 „	.. 2	.. 4—5
♂ . . .	17 × 6.5 „	.. 4—5	.. 5
♂ . . .	18 × 7 „	.. 2—3	.. 3
♀ . . .	17.5 × 7 „	.. 4	.. 3—5

SCLERORINUS MELICEPS, Pasc.

Pascoe, Journ. Linn. Soc., 1873, p. 10; Ferguson, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales, 1915, xl., p. 801.

When in London I had an opportunity of examining the type ♂ of this species in the British Museum, and made the following notes:—

“*Sclerorinus meliceps*, Pasc. ♂ (Type), belongs to subcostatus group and allied to *S. squalidus*. Prothorax with small round granules, abraded in centre. Elytra with depressions irregular, transverse, not deep; granules prominent, about equal in size to interstitial granules; these granuliform forming continuous rows on the third, fifth and sixth, at intervals on the second and fourth, hardly distinguishable from the other granules. Median vitta yellow. Middle tibiæ notched. Setæ yellow.”

Hab.—Queensland.

This species was unknown to me at the time I revised the genus, and provisionally it was placed in group V. It should however come into group IV., and next to *S. squalidus*, Macl.

SCLERORINUS BESTI, n.sp.

A small species in general appearance resembling the tuberculosus-germari group, but with simple intermediate tibiæ.

♂ Black; densely clothed with dark brown, minute, subsquamose pubescence, vittate with creamy; head with a median vitta bifurcate on rostrum; prothorax and elytra trivittate, the inner surfaces of the tubercles also with lighter clothing; lower margins of elytra vittate with creamy; venter with yellowish brown macules in mid line, and with black hairs on apical segment only.

Head convex, running into rostrum without any definite line of demarcation. Rostrum with external ridges subparallel, running back on to head, somewhat broader posteriorly; median area laevigate, raised, carinate; sublateral sulci elongate, deeper posteriorly. Antennæ rather short, scape stout, funicle with joints short, first slightly longer than second. Eyes ovate.

Prothorax subangulate on sides, widest across middle; apical margin rounded above, produced somewhat over head, with definite ocular lobes; subapical constriction rather strongly marked; median line free from granules, but not definitely impressed; disc set with comparatively large rounded granules, rather distantly placed and absent along median and sublateral vittæ; sides with indications of granules in front. Elytra elongate, gradually widened to behind middle; apex widely rounded; base emarginate, humeral angles with a large somewhat obtuse tubercle; punctures small and obscure, except between second and third rows of tubercles, where they are distinct; with three rows of strong conical tubercles; first interstice with a row of granules, second interstice with a row of 6-7 tubercles, elongate anteriorly, but not extending to base, larger and more acute posteriorly, and extending half-way down declivity; third interstice with 6-8 similar tubercles, but starting from base and ending on edge of declivity; fourth without tubercles; fifth with a short row of 4 small tubercles, including humeral tubercle, followed almost in the same line by 5 large tubercles on the sixth interstice; lateral interstices, with a few depressed granules. Venter flattened; apical segment concave, the sides produced ventrally, with an acute angle, somewhat incurved posteriorly, the centre of the concavity occupied by a brush of thickly set hairs, the lateral portions more deeply excavate. Apex of last dorsal segment narrow, but rather strongly setigerous. Legs simple, intermediate tibiæ not notched.

♀ Similar to ♂, but more rounded on elytra; elytral tubercles similar, but a subapical tubercle present on one side in the only ♀ before me. Ventral segments convex, apical segment not excavate, but with a small round depression at extreme apex.

Dimensions.—♂ 12×4.5 mm.; ♀ 12×5 mm.

Hab.—Victoria, Portland (J. E. Dixon).

Although undoubtedly a *Scleromus* as that genus is at present understood, I am undecided to what group to assign the present species. It is referred to Section II. with some doubt as the median vitta is incomplete, being practically only represented by the long hairs on the apical segment, this segment is however not channelled as in Section I. The tubercles of the fifth interstice would place it in Group V., and it has a resemblance to the *tuberculosis-germari* portion of the group, but the tibiae are simple, and it bears little likeness to the rest of the group. The structure of the apical ventral segment is quite unlike that of any member of the fifth group, but is similar to that found in Group II., but the members of this group are otherwise very different.

I am indebted for four specimens (3 ♂♂, 1 ♀) to Mr. J. E. Dixon, and have much pleasure in naming the species after his friend and fellow-collector—Mr. D. Best, of Melbourne.

Types in author's collection.